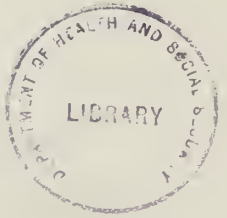


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ALSAGER URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL

REPORT
ON THE
Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the
District
FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31st. DECEMBER 1970



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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH	-	L. RICH, M.B., ChB., M.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.
SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR	-	A. JAMIESON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,
DEPUTY SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR	-	J.B. MELLOR, M.A.P.H.I.

To the Chairman and Members of the Alsager Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Urban District for the year 1970.

The incidence of infectious diseases continues to remain low despite the fact that we have had over twenty cases of measles. The uptake of immunisation generally is very good in Alsager and we hope that most of the common infectious diseases will ultimately be eradicated.

As will be seen in the Report we have begun to protect schoolgirls against german measles and I am very satisfied with the response we have had from the parents. Although german measles itself is not a serious disease if it occurs during early pregnancy it is responsible for very serious mental defects and physical deformities in the new born child. It is to be hoped in the future that a big in-road will be made into this problem by the new policy we are adopting in the vaccination of schoolgirls between the ages of eleven and thirteen.

Although the number of births has dropped the population of Alsager continues to rise. I would like to draw the attention of the Council to the large number of births that now take place in hospital and the consequent diminution of home confinements. Whether this is a satisfactory state of affairs or not my own personal view is that many more home births could occur with advantage both to the hospital and to the persons concerned. However, national policy now is for as many confinements as possible to take place in hospital.

I am particularly satisfied with the new arrangements now taking place in connection with refuse collection and disposal. The new pulverisation plant is working satisfactorily and indeed we are shortly to be joined by two of our neighbouring Authorities, namely Sandbach U.D.C. and Congleton R.D.C., in this modern scheme of refuse disposal.

There have been some unfortunate delays in the completion of the sewage works and whereas it was to be hoped that we would be in operation early in 1971 it looks now, due to factors beyond the Councils control, that there must be sometime yet before the two old sewage works can be give up.

It is very satisfactory to note that not only is progress taking place in the modernisation of the flats of the Council on the Longview Estate, but the Council are also embarking on the policy of modernisation of the houses. I consider that Alsager is to be congratulated on its progressive attitude in this direction.

As the Council will know the Divisional Health Committee has now ceased to exist and consequently the extracts from their Report normally introduced into the Alsager Annual Report will no longer take the same form. However, I shall endeavour in future Annual Reports to insert information relevant to the situation in Alsager.

I am also pleased to report that in April 1971 we began a Family Planning Unit at the Clinic in Sandbach Road South, held on the second and fourth Wednesday evenings of each month. We are grateful indeed to all the voluntary helpers responsible for this new venture and I can also report that the public have appreciated this very much indeed and are attending in considerable numbers.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Mr. R. Heap, our Clerk, who for many years has been such a faithfully servant to the Council and of considerable help and guidance to me personally. I should also like to thank both Mr. Jamieson and Mr. Mellor once again for their assistance to me and for their help in the preparation of this Report.

I beg to remain,
Your obedient Servant,

L. RICH
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Extracts from Vital Statistics

Estimated Population . . . 10,490 (10,450)

<u>Births</u>		<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
	Legitimate	135 (153)	70 (73)	65 (80)
Live Births	Illegitimate	6 (6)	1 (3)	5 (3)
	Legitimate	2 (-)	1 (-)	1 (-)
Still Births	Illegitimate	1 (1)	1 (-)	- (-)

Live birth rate per 1,000 estimated average population mid.1970 11.2 (12.8)
Live birth rate for England and Wales per 1,000 of the population 16.0 (16.3)
Still birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 21 (6)
Still birth rate for England and Wales per 1,000 total (live and still)
births 13 (13)
Still birth rate per 1,000 population 0.2 (1)

Infantile Mortality

The total number of deaths is shown as follows:-

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	5 (-)	3 (-)	2 (-)
Illegitimate	1 (-)	- (-)	1 (-)

Infantile mortality rate per 1,000 live births 43 (0)
Infantile mortality rate for England and Wales 18 (18)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 37 (0)
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births 167 (0)

Deaths

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Deaths (all ages)	98 (97)	57 (48)	41 (49)

Death rate per 1,000 estimated average population 9.3 (13.9)
Death rate for England and Wales per 1,000 of the population 11.7 (11.9)

Deaths from Puerperal and Maternal causes:-

	<u>No. of deaths</u>	
Puerperal Sepsis	0	(0)
Other Maternal causes	0	(0)

Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births 0 (0)

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICE FOR THE
AREA

Care of Mothers and Young Children

Health Visitors	-	Miss H.M. Furness, Clinic Centre, Sandbach Road South, Alsager. Tel: Alsager 3215
	-	Mrs. B.M. Doorbar, Clinic Centre, Sandbach Road South, Alsager. Tel: Alsager 3215
	-	Mrs. J. Hoyer, Clinic Centre, Sandbach Road South, Alsager, Tel: Alsager 3215

Meals on wheels

This service enables the W.R.V.S. to keep a wonderful contact between themselves and the recipients.

The drivers and aides, who work to a rotam do many little kindnesses and give help when it is needed.

From January to the end of December 3,233 meals were delivered.

Statistics

	Attendances						Total	No. of Clinics held	Cases seen by Dr.	Average per clinic seen by Dr.	Average attendance per Clinic
	Born 1970		Born 1969		Born 1968-66						
	1st.	Subs	1st.	Subs.	1st.	Subs.					
Infant Welfare Clinic	157	1194	173	1269	119	381	3893	51	402	7.9	64.6

Special Clinics for under 5

	New Cases	Total Attendances	No. of Clinics held	Average per Clinic
Ophthalmic Clinic	23 (15)	67 (49)	13 (12)	5.1 (4)
	New Cases	Re-examination	No. of Clinics held	Average per Clinic
E.N.T.	22 (12)	33 (13)	10 (11)	5.5 (2.2)

Special Clinic for School Children

	New Cases	Total Attendances	No. of Clinics held	Average per Clinic
Ophthalmic Clinic	47 (28)	168 (94)	13 (12)	12.92 (7.8)
E.N.T.	37 (44)	97 (144)	10 (11)	9.7 (13.1)

Preparation Class

	New Cases	Total Attendances	No. of Clinics held	No. Attended Relax. Exercises.
Preparation Class	72 (75)	494 (559)	51 (51)	483 (559)

Welfare Foods Sold - 1970

Distribution Centre	National Full Cream	Dried Milk Half Cream	A. & D. Tablets	Cod Liver Oil	Orange Juice
Welfare Centre	381 (267)	- (18)	359 (167)	191 (338)	5974 (5736)
Lawton Road, (W.R.V.S.).	19 (64)	- (-)	7 (9)	33 (9)	477 (443)

I would like to thank the voluntary workers who give us such valuable assistance in the Clinic.

Midwifery

Midwife

-

Mrs. E.L. Pedley, 6 Audley Road, Alsager.

Tel: Alsager 2583

Once again it is particularly satisfactory to report that a full years work has been achieved without any maternal death.

I would also draw attention to the continued popularity of the Preparation Classes.

Births 1970

Hospital		Home		Private N. Home	
Live	Still	Live	Still	Live	Still
131 (154)	3 (1)	8 (10)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)

Home Nursing

The District Nurses for Alsager are - Mrs. A.M. Skellam,
28 Birch Avenue, Alsager.
Tel: Alsager 2582

- Mrs. B.D. Mann (Relief)
43 Clowes Avenue, Alsager.
Tel: Alsager 2089

The Home Nurses work under the direction of the family doctor and look after patients in their own homes. Because of this many cases who otherwise would have been admitted to hospital are dealt with at home. This work helps considerably in reducing the strain on the hospitals. Once again it is with pleasure that I have to report that no single complaint was received during the year.

Completed Primary Courses - Persons under age 16

(South East Cheshire)

Type of Vaccine	Year of Birth					Others under 16	Total	
	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966-63		At Clinics	By G.P.s.
Quadruple	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
Triple (D/W.C./T)	18 (33)	630 (364)	290 (112)	18 (15)	11 (22)	3 (31)	261 (158)	709 (419)
Diphtheria/Whooping Cough	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
Diphtheria/Tetanus	(-)	(1)	(-)	(-)	2 (-)	(1)	(-)	2 (2)
Diphtheria	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
Whooping Cough	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
Tetanus	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	3 (-)	(-)	3 (-)
Polio-Salk	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
Polio-Sabin	18 (37)	614 (388)	289 (114)	20 (20)	22 (22)	20 (66)	282 (159)	701 (488)
Measles	1 (-)	243 (90)	498 (231)	161 (125)	143 (208)	49 (40)	294 (246)	801 (448)
German Measles	-	-	-	-	-	547	496	51

Reinforcing Doses - Persons under age 16

(South East Cheshire)

Type of Vaccine	Year of Birth					Others under 16	Total	
	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966-63		At Clinics	By G.P.s.
Quadruple	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
Triple (D/W.C./T)	(-)	3 (32)	50 (139)	18 (24)	216 (423)	8 (22)	34 (170)	261 (470)
Diphtheria/Whooping Cough	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
Diphtheria/Tetanus	(-)	(2)	5 (2)	1 (-)	617 (290)	51 (9)	245 (102)	429 (201)
Diphtheria	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
Whooping Cough	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
Tetanus	(-)	(-)	(-)	(2)	63 (29)	131 (90)	4 (-)	190 (121)
Polio-Salk	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
Polio-Sabin	(-)	4 (44)	53 (120)	23 (47)	878 (936)	60 (104)	284 (406)	734 (845)

Smallpox Vaccination - Persons under age 16

(South East Cheshire)

	Year of Birth				Others under 16	Total	At Clinics	By G.Ps.
	1970	1969	1968	1967-56				
Vaccinated	- (5)	288 (296)	558 (336)	94 (164)	6 (-)	946 (801)	235 (190)	711 (611)
Re-vaccinated	- (-)	1 (-)	2 (-)	96 (42)	51 (-)	150 (42)	9 (2)	141 (40)

Ambulance Service

I am well satisfied with the general turn-out and maintenance of the ambulance.

Domestic Help Service

Statistics relating to the Home Help Service provided during 1970 are as follows:-

Home Helps employed during 1970

Full time	-	(-)
Part time	32	(35)
	<u>32</u>	<u>(35)</u>

Home Helps employed at 31st. December, 1970

Full time	-	(-)
Part time	23	(36)
	<u>23</u>	<u>(36)</u>

Applications received during 1970

Aged and Infirm	23	(15)
Chronic Sick	2	(2)
Mentally Disordered	-	(-)
Maternity	1	(3)
Others	1	(6)
	<u>27</u>	<u>(26)</u>

Cases attended during 1970

Aged and Infirm	64	(60)
Chronic Sick	16	(14)
Mentally Disordered	1	(1)
Maternity	1	(3)
Others	6	(12)
	<u>88</u>	<u>(90)</u>

Cases receiving attention at 31st. December, 1970

Aged and Infirm	58	(39)
Chronic Sick	6	(12)
Mentally Disordered	1	(1)
Maternity	-	(-)
Others	3	(6)
	<u>68</u>	<u>(58)</u>

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1970

Disease	Age Distribution									Total	Cases admtd. to Hospital
	Under	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-9	10-14	15-24	25+		
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	3	-
Measles	-	4	6	3	7	7	1	-	-	28	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	3	-

Tuberculosis

For comparative purposes I have recorded the notifications of Tuberculosis during 1970 in conjunction with the notifications of this disease received each year since 1961.

Notifications - 1961 to 1970

	1961		1962		1963		1964		1965		1966		1967		1968		1969		1970	
	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP
<u>MALE</u>																				
Up to 1 year																				
1 - 5																				
5 - 15																				
15 - 25												1								
25 - 35											1									
35 - 45												1							1	
45 - 55																				
55 - 65	1																			
65 and over																				
<u>FEMALE</u>																				
Up to 1 year																				
1 - 5																				
5 - 15																				
15 - 25							1													
25 - 35					1															
35 - 45							1	1												
45 - 55							1													
55 - 65								1												
65 and over																				
TOTAL	1	-	-	-	1	-	3	2	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-

Deaths - 1961 to 1970

	1961		1962		1963		1964		1965		1966		1967		1968		1969		1970	
	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP
<u>MALE</u>																				
Up to 1 year																				
1 - 5																				
5 - 15																				
15 - 25																				
25 - 35																				
35 - 45																				
45 - 55																				
55 - 65	1						1													
65 and over			1																	
<u>FEMALE</u>																				
Up to 1 year																				
1 - 5																				
5 - 15																				
15 - 25																				
25 - 35																				
35 - 45																				
45 - 55																				
55 - 65																				
65 and over																				
TOTAL	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Cases on the Tuberculosis Register at 31st. December, 1970, were as follows:-

	Up to 1 year	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 & over	Total
Male Pulmonary	-	-	-	-	1	1	5	2	2	11
Female Pulmonary	-	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	5
Male Non-Pulmonary	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	1	-	5
Female Non-Pulmonary	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	-	4

Water Supply

Water is supplied by the Mid Cheshire Water Board. Both quantity and quality are good.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

Although continuous building is taking place and the two sewage works maintained by the Council situated at Day Green and Longview are seriously overloaded, progress is now being made on the new sewage works at Hassall Road, the estimated cost of which, together with new sewers is £442,000, and although we hoped that this would be in operation near the end of this year, unfortunately due to unforeseen circumstances this was not so.

The latest information is that it is anticipated to become operative by June, 1971.

Refuse Disposal

Although a further 64 houses were erected during the year we are still maintaining a weekly collection. We have not as yet increased the number of properties operating plastic bin liners, due mainly to an anticipated investigation by "workstudy" when the whole question of collection will be dealt with.

In respect of disposal of refuse, in August 1970 the new Tollemache Pulverisation Hammer Mill came into operation, and after some teething troubles, is now operating very successfully.

We have been informed by two neighbouring authorities that during 1971 they will make use of this mill.

Food and Drugs

During this period 63 visits have been made to food premises and there appears to be a reasonable standard of food hygiene observed by the traders.

During this year 1321 lbs. of various foods have been condemned.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963

Complete inspections have been carried out of all premises to which the above Act requires, viz:

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year.
Offices	-	14	3
Retail Shops	2	52	15
Wholesale Shops	-	-	-
Warehouses	-	-	-
Catering Establishments open to the public, canteens.	1	2	1
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-
TOTALS	2	68	19

Total number of visits of all kinds by Inspector to Registered Premises under the Act - 89

Housing

By the 31st. December, 1970, we reached what might be termed the "Home Stretch" in that under 100 dwellings in Alsager did not possess the Standard Amenities, in fact only 88 such dwellings exist. Unfortunately, however, the vast majority of these are owner/occupied by retired persons on fixed incomes, who feel that they are not prepared nor do they have the financial backing to install these amenities.

As I mentioned in my last years' report, it is rather a pity that people who have strived to purchase their house for retirement should, because of financial restriction, be prevented from enjoying modern amenities in their twilight years.

It is appreciated that the latest legislation has greatly assisted, but it is regretted that in cases such as these the whole of the cost could not be borne by the local authority or Ekechquer.

One application for Standard Grant and ten for Discretionary were received during this year, and the amount paid for completed improvements was £2745. These grants provided for the undermentioned amenities:

a) fixed bath	-
b) wash hand basin	1
c) hot water supply and fittings	1
d) water closet	1
e) sink	1

Together with the above, this authority as Landlords of property have commenced an improvement scheme of 142 flats, and these are proceeding satisfactorily. To date 24 have been completed and another 24 are anticipated during 1971.

It is a pleasure to report such progress on matters vitally concerned with the well being of people and proves once again that a progressive authority, as in our case, cannot be judged solely on size.

Slaughterhouse Act

There is one private slaughterhouse in the district.

Carcases and offals inspected and condemned in whole or in part, are set out below:

Animals slaughtered and inspected	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
	397	-	-	1957	592
<u>Condemnations</u>					
1) All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	127	-	-	189	43
2) <u>Tuberculosis only</u> Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-

CYSTICERCUS BOVIS

	Cattle <u>Exc. Cows</u>	<u>Cows</u>
a. Localised	3	-
b. Generalised	-	-
	3	-

Diseases	Weight - lbs.			
	Beef	Veal	Mutton	Pork
Tuberculoses	86	-	194	-
Parasites and Cysts	-	-	-	62
Angioma	-	-	-	-
Dropsy	-	-	-	-
Emaciation	-	-	-	-
Traumatism	-	-	-	-
Inflammation	-	-	11	4
Horibund	-	-	-	-
Immaturity	-	-	-	-
Actinomycosis	32	-	-	-
Pericarditis	-	-	-	20
Peritonitis	-	-	-	-
Pleurisy	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	22	-	21	17
Septicaemia	-	-	-	-
Pyæmia	-	-	-	-
Sæpraemia	-	-	-	-
Mammitis	-	-	-	-
Tumours	-	-	-	-
Fever	-	-	-	-
Decomposition	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	125	-	12	-
Abscesses	287	-	-	-
TOTALS	552	-	238	103

In addition to the above, five butchers shops sell meat which is not slaughtered within the district